

TOPIC Dessau Airfield 25X1EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 9 December 1952REFERENCES 25X1PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The following observations were made at Dessau airfield between 13 and 30 October 1952:

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13 October. Between 2 and 5 p.m., three individual take-offs were made by biplanes.

14 October. Between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., formation flying was practiced by IL-10s which flew under the clouds for about 90 minutes. There was an 8/10 overcast at an altitude of 600 meters. At 10 a.m., 21 IL-10s were observed taking-off in three squadrons of 7 planes each. At noon, 18 IL-10s took off and practiced formation flying.

18 and 19 October. There was no air activity during unfavorable weather.

22 October. The field was occupied by 49 IL-10s and 4 biplanes which were parked on the southern edge. All of the IL-10s had white upper edges on their rudder assemblies. IL-10 planes with red upper edges on their rudder assemblies were no longer observed.¹

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23 October. Between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., the weather deteriorated. There was air activity by IL-10s including one towing an air sleeve. The planes practiced circling, flying in the clouds and gliding.

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24 October. Between 5:30 p.m. and midnight, biplanes practiced flying in elements of two.

27 October. Between 7:30 and 11:30 a.m., school flying was practiced by two biplanes which remained aloft for one hour. In the afternoon, biplanes flew in elements of two. In the morning, an IL-10 towing an air sleeve flew in the vicinity of the field. This plane had not taken off from Dessau airfield but probably came from Koethen airfield because it was repeatedly observed that jet fighters practiced firing at air sleeves towed by IL-10s over the Flaeming mountain ridge.

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28 October. Between 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., eleven individual take-offs were made by three IL-10s with white upper edges on their rudder assemblies. One plane had the white No 43. The cloud base was at an altitude of 1,000 meters. The visibility was limited to about 6 km.

30 October. Between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., IL-10s took off in flights and landed in elements. There was also air activity involving individual planes.

2. Up to 6 November, about 35 shrapnelproof aircraft revetments were completed at the field. Fifty percent were located on the northern edge of the field along the road and the other half along the lane in the southwestern corner of the field.

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3. The AA gun emplacement near the flight control station on the southern edge of the field was still occupied by six light guns.

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4. On 2 November, 51 IL-10s and 1 biplane were counted at the field. On 3 November, 54 IL-10s and 1 biplane were parked on the southern edge of the taxiway. On both days, there was no air activity, probably because of bad weather.

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1. Comment. Dessau airfield is occupied by a ground attack regiment which is equipped with about 55 IL-10s. The aircraft of this regiment are marked by white upper edges on their rudder assemblies. The IL-10s with red upper edges on their rudder assemblies belong to the ground attack regiment from Brandenburg-Arado airfield which was stationed at Dessau airfield during fall maneuvers of the Soviet Army between 9 and 17 October.

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